

FILE COPY



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/762,415	01/22/2004	Dale A. Gepfrey	GII 001 P2 US

CONFIRMATION NO. 4545

Joseph G. Nauman
 696 Renolda Woods Ct.
 Dayton, OH 45429-3415



OC000000012888006

Date Mailed: 06/07/2004

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Domestic Continuity and Foreign Priority

In response to your request for a corrected Filing Receipt, the Office is unable to comply with the request because:

- The priority or continuity claim has not been entered because it was not filed during the required time period. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority. See 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78.
- Continuity claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120 cannot be added to the Filing Receipt without the applicant supplying the relationship (continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) in an Application Data Sheet or amendment to the first page of the specification.
- A claim for priority cannot be made based on an application filed after the application making the claim.
- Domestic benefit and foreign priority claims will not be captured in a provisional application. A provisional application is not entitled to a right of priority or to the benefit of an earlier filing date of any other application. See 35 U.S.C. § 111(b)(7) and 37 CFR 1.53(c)(4).
- A domestic continuity claim cannot be made to a foreign application and the filing receipt will only list the foreign country, application number, and filing date.
- Foreign priority will appear on the Filing Receipt in the following order: **Country, Application number, Filing date.**
- This application is the result of a conversion from a provisional application. Priority based on such application cannot be made since it no longer exists as a provisional application.
- The application(s) to which priority is claimed were filed over a year prior to the filing date of this application. Therefore, the referenced application(s) cannot be claimed as domestic or foreign priority.

- To change the benefit claim of a U.S. prior-filed application, applicant must amend the first sentence of the specification (if the benefit claim is referenced in the specification), or provide a supplemental application data sheet (ADS) (if the benefit claim was submitted in an ADS), with the desired benefit claim. Note that once a benefit claim is deleted, applicant will not be able to claim such prior-filed application again, if the above-identified application was filed on or after November 29, 2000.
- To change a foreign priority claim, applicant must submit a supplemental oath or declaration (if the priority claim is referenced in the oath or declaration), or a supplemental application data sheet (ADS) (if the priority claim was submitted in an ADS), with the desired priority claim. If a supplemental ADS is submitted, any deletions should be shown with strikeouts. Note that once a priority claim is deleted, applicant will not be able to claim such foreign application again, if the above-identified application was filed on or after November 29, 2000.

H. Sauer

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

USPTO TO PROVIDE ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO CITED U.S. PATENT REFERENCES WITH OFFICE ACTIONS AND CEASE SUPPLYING PAPER COPIES

In support of its 21st Century Strategic Plan goal of increased patent e-Government, beginning in June 2004, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office or USPTO) will begin the phase-in of its E-Patent Reference program and hence will: (1) provide downloading capability of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications cited in Office actions via the E-Patent Reference feature of the Office's Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system; and (2) cease mailing paper copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications with Office actions (in applications and during reexamination proceedings) except for citations made during the international stage of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). In order to use the new E-Patent Reference feature applicants must: (1) obtain a digital certificate and software from the Office; (2) obtain a customer number from the Office; and (3) properly associate patent applications with the customer number. Alternatively, copies of all U.S. patents and patent application publications can be accessed without a digital certificate from the USPTO web site, from the USPTO Office of Public Records, and from commercial sources. The Office will continue the practice of supplying paper copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature with Office actions. Paper copies of cited references will continue to be provided by the USPTO for international applications during the international stage.

Schedule

June 2004	TCs 1600, 1700, 2800 and 2900
July 2004	TCs 3600 and 3700
August 2004	TCs 2100 and 2600

All U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site. However, a simple system for downloading the cited U.S. patents and patent application publications has been established for applicants, called the E-Patent Reference system. As E-Patent Reference and Private PAIR require participating applicants to have a customer number, retrieval software and a digital certificate, all applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Patent Electronic Business Center to acquire these items. To be ready to use this system by June 1, 2004, contact the Patent EBC as soon as possible by phone at 866-217-9197 (toll-free), 703-305-3028 or 703-308-6845 or electronically via the Internet at ebc@uspto.gov.

Other Options

The E-Patent Reference function requires the applicant to use the secure Private PAIR system, which establishes confidential communications with the applicant. Applicants using this facility must receive a digital certificate, as described above. Other options for obtaining patents which do not require the digital certificate include the USPTO's free Patents on the Web program (<http://www.uspto.gov/patft/index.html>). The USPTO's Office of Public Records also supplies copies of patents for a fee (<http://ebiz1.uspto.gov/oems25p/index.html>). Commercial sources also provide U.S. patents and patent application publications.

For complete instructions see the Official Gazette Notice, USPTO TO PROVIDE ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO CITED U.S. PATENT REFERENCES WITH OFFICE ACTIONS AND CEASE SUPPLYING PAPER COPIES, on the USPTO web site.